



**Newaygo County Area Promise Zone Authority Board Meeting**  
Tuesday, August 10, 2021  
NC RESA Educational Services Center Board Room

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Lori Tubbergen Clark (chairperson), Dawn Anderson, Jack Hendon, Dick Dunning, Holly Moon, Cathy Obits, Scott Swinehart, Becky Tuuk, Pat Brown (arrived at 11:35 a.m.), Kathy Pope

Absent: Tim Rossler, Scott Rumsey, Don VanSingel

Visitors: Melissa Miller, Loretta Towne (recorder), Cheryl Flannery

Chairperson Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Board Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion by Hendon, supported by Tuuk, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Moon, supported by Swinehart to approve the May 11, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Public Participation:**

Dr. Tubbergen Clark opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

**Ms. Obits presented the following report on behalf of the Operations Subcommittee:**

- Mr. Hendon shared our 2020 audit from Gabridge & Co. The audit was sent to the State of Michigan in April with a clean opinion.
- Our MOU with MCC will take effect for the Fall 2021 Semester.
- A draft Board Manual was shared and will be finalized by August 31.
- Promise Scholars for Fall 2021
  - 130 submitted a 2021 application
  - 114 were eligible for the Associate Degree scholarship
  - 6 were eligible for the apprenticeship scholarship
  - 56 have accepted their award (plus 2 deferred until 2022/2023)
  - 39 scholars have submitted renewal applications
- There is a new billing contact with Michigan State University for our consortium and there will be a form to complete each year to ensure billing is handled properly.

**Mrs. Moon presented the following report on behalf of the Fundraising Subcommittee:**

- The 2021-2022 Staff Payroll Deduction Campaign will begin at the end of August. Mr. Paul Dudek (subcommittee co-chair) will attend a superintendents' meeting to present the campaign. Last year, the campaign raised \$16,737.
- A community member recently made an IRA gift to the Promise Zone.
- The subcommittee is looking forward to creating a more structured collaboration between WE CAN! and the Promise Zone; the subcommittee will be moving forward with strategic planning in September.

**Ms. Tuuk presented the following report on behalf of the Promise Success Initiative Subcommittee:**

- The Promise Scholarship 101 (mandatory briefing) session was held on August 4 for all new Promise Scholars. There were 48 students in attendance and a total of 100 including parents/families.
- A Kick-Off Party will be held on August 19 for all current Promise Scholars. The event will be at Henning Park in Newaygo and offer free food, giveaways, and drawings for students. Students will also hear about Success Groups, meet Success Leaders and be able to sign-up for a Success Group.

**Mrs. Miller presented the following report on behalf of the Marketing and Communications Subcommittee:**

- The communications plan for grades 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 remain on pause due to COVID and new superintendents. The plan is ready with the hopes to launch during the 2021-2022 school year.
- The Promise Zone's new Facebook page has been launched; board members were encouraged to like and share this new page.

**Action Items:**

MCC Tuition Payment: Motion by Moon, supported by Hendon, to approve summer tuition from MCC totaling \$6,640.00. There was discussion on the number of adjustments from the winter 2021 semester. Cheryl Flannery will follow-up. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried. (*Note: attachment from MCC with information about invoice correction*).

Approval of Audit: Motion by Anderson, supported by Swinehart, to approve the 2020 Newaygo County Area Promise Zone audit. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

2021 Audit Firm: Motion by Swinehart, supported by Tuuk, to approve Gabridge & Co as the 2021 audit firm for the Newaygo County Area Promise Zone. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Information from Promise Zone Board Members:**

Mr. Swinehart asked about the appeals process and who sits on the subcommittee.

The Open Meetings Act has changed. Voting can no longer take place electronically. Voting must be done in-person and with a quorum.

Dr. Tubbergen Clark shared about the PromiseNet 2021 Conference on November 8 and 9 in Kalamazoo. Board Members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. The conference will be a great opportunity to learn from others and share our own experience. To accommodate those Board Members and staff who might want to attend, our regularly scheduled board meeting will be moved to November 16, 2021.

Dr. Tubbergen Clark announced that she will be retiring from NC RESA at the end of December 2021. The NC RESA Board has accepted her resignation and will begin their search for her replacement.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Hendon, supported by Swinehart, to adjourn. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

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Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark, Chairperson